ブルーフレンド

BLUE FRIEND

えばんふみ

EBAN FUMI

1

RMC

ROMANCE MASCOT COMICS

ブルーフレンド【1】

えばんふみ

りぼん
マスコット
コミックス

RIBON MASCOT COMICS 2079

ブルーフレンド

BLUE FRIEND

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1

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Blue Friend: Chapter 1

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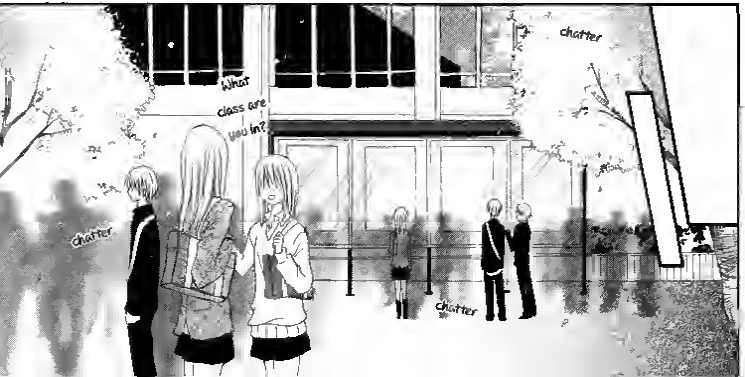
I WAS DROWN-ING
IN FEELINGS THAT I DIDN'T KNOW THE NAME OF


What class are you in?
chatter
chatter
chatter
chatter

*FOOTSTEPS
WHAT WAS THAT!?
OI YOU HAVEN'T SEEN THE BULLETIN BOARD HAVE YOU
ohaha
ouuu!
TSUKISHIMA-SAN IS IN CLASS 2!
ARE YOU SERIOUS!?
AH
CLASS 2
NO WAY!? YOU TOO AYUMU!?
SAH... CLASS 2 IS GOING TO BE SO NOISY..
ohaha
ONLY HAVING TO SEE AYUMU IN CLUB WOULD BE FINE WITH ME
NOT FAIR! CLASS 2 IS SO LUCKY!!!
THEY GET TO SEE HER ALL DAY, EVERYDAY!!!
ah
I WANT TO BE IN CLASS 2 TOO!

?
TSUKISHIM...
THAT TSUKISHIMA?
THE ONE IN CLASS 2
TSUKI-SHIMA, WHO'S THAT?
.....
SO CUTE
whisper
I'M SO LUCKY THAT I'M IN CLASS 2
whisper

I THOUGHT SHE WAS A BEAUTIFUL GIRL
AND WE SIT NEXT TO EACH OTHER TOO
DEMURE.
SHE MAY BE PRETTY BUT
THE PROBLEM IS NOT WITH HER FACE BUT RATHER IT S
"HER PERSONALITY"
UMM
I'M KURIHARA AYUMU!
NICE TO MEET YOU!

EHH
UMM
motionless...
NICE TO MEET...
I'M READING A BOOK YOU KNOW
CAN'T YOU BE QUIET?
BELL RINGING
PUTTING ON MAKE-UP
THAT TSUKI-SHIMA MAKES ME SO ANGRY!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT ATTITUDE OF HERS!!
WELL, I WAS SURPRISED
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY SOME-THING BACK TO HER AYUMU?
It was such a straight-forward reply
AND THAT'S WHY ALL THE GIRLS IGNORE HER!
GUYS ARE ATTRACTED TO HER LOOKS TOO MUCH
HEY!

I SEE
THAT GIRL IS FAMOUS, ISN'T SHE
scratch
scratch
...THAT'S
so the rumors are true?
turn
trudge
SOMEHOW, I WAS
...EHH
confession?
IN A TOTALLY DIFFER-ENT WORLD THEN THAT GIRL

1

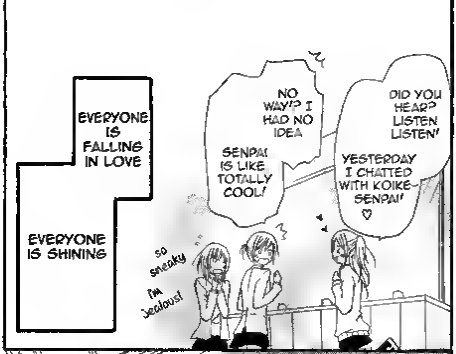
Hello.
This is Eban Fumi.

Thank you so much for picking up Blue Friend: Volume 1.

This manga has a theme of very complex relationships. Because of the theme being what is it would be a lie to say that I didn't have mixed feelings about it at the start. But when I tried to draw it I thought... "I really want to draw this." and next thing you know, I'm drawing feverishly.

The drawing up until this point has given me something very much worth doing.

This time there are 10 pillars.* If it's okay let's please acquaint ourselves. So stick with me till the end, alright? ✣


EVERYONE IS FALLING IN LOVE
EVERYONE IS SHINING
so sneaky I'm jealous!
NO WAY!? I HAD NO IDEA
SENPAI IS LIKE TOTALLY COOL!
DID YOU HEAR? LISTEN LISTEN!
YESTERDAY I CHATTED WITH KOIKE-SENPAI! ♡

*AN 10 pillars? This stumped three people~ So have some pillars.

ahaha...
I'M SORRY, SENSEI'S VOICE IS SO NICE THAT I nearly dozed off
DON'T JUST SIT THERE AND YAWN!
YOUR MOUTH'S WIDE OPEN!
Are you a fish?
LIAR
ahaha
5TH PERIOD AND I'M SLEEPY...
AREN'T YOU TIRED, TSUKISHIMA-SAN?
Ignoring everything
AH!
WHAT'S THAT?! TSUKISHIMA-SAN'S ERASER IS
SUPER CUTE!!
surprised
WAIT... GIVE...
WHY, LEMME SEE!
bwa ha ha
TSUKISHIMA-SAN! I'D NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D BE
USING SOMETHING SO CUTE LIKE THIS! I WANT ONE TOO!!
AHAHAHA
ぱーん

*STUNNED UNEASY CROWD
GIVE IT BACK!
I'M SORRY
I'LL GIVE IT BACK
THAT
THAT WAS
emotionless.
WHILE CHANGING CLOTHES
I'M GOING ON AHEAD TO CLUB
what should I do
YEA I DID UPSET HER THOUGH...
*DOOR OPENING
Girls' Soft-ball Club
hey...
TSUKISHIMA-SAN JUST CAN'T TAKE A JOKE
WHAT ARE YOU DOING AYUMU... YOU SHOULDN'T BE SO CONCERNED ABOUT THAT GIRL

I WONDER WHY SHE AVOIDS PEOPLE
CLICK
LUCKY I got in super close!
hehe DID YOU TAKE IT?
*RUNNING AWAY
KONK
ACK!
CATCH
throw
YOU-
YOU'RE GUYS AND YET YOU'RE ACTING LIKE SISSIES
NOW DELETE THAT PICTURE

*RUSTLING WIND
AH, SORRY... IT'S JUST ME
*RUNNING AWAY
What was that!?
Well
THOSE BOYS ARE USELESS
WHO ARE YOU?
THERE YOU ARE!
AYUMU, LET'S GO TO CLUB!
OH.
I HOPE YOU CAN FORGIVE ME FOR THE ERASER THING
AH
I'M IN THE SOFTBALL CLUB
I'D BETTER GET GOING SO
I'LL SEE YOU LATER

IT'S HIGH...
RUN RUN!
amazin

THAT'S JUST LIKE YOU AYUMU LIKE A GUY
Aaha I'M A GIRL YOU KNOW..
NOO~ YOU'RE MORE GUY-LIKE THAN THE GUYS!
and more than a woman !!
High five!

a ha ha ha

SLAM

Hey...
TSUKI-SHIMA MISUZU
COME HERE A BIT
YOU...
YOU ARE SERIOUSLY AN EYESORE, I CAN'T EVEN STAND TO LOOK AT YOU
Phew...
I BROKE A GOOD SWEAT TODAY.

YOU WERE FLIRTING WITH ANOTHER GIRLS BOYFRIEND!
COME ON SLUT
SAY SOMETHING!
.....
...THAT
WAS NEVER MY INTENTION
YOUR BOYFRIEND OR SUCH CAME AND APPROACHED ME ON HIS OWN ACCORD
I THINK YOU'VE JUST MISUNDER-STOOD
!
(sweat)
grab
!
.....
THAT'S
Hyaa

WHA—
WHO ARE YOU!?
AH
IT'S THAT PERSON FROM THE SECOND YEAR SOFTBALL CLUB...
That star player!
I AM CONFIDENT THAT I WOULD NOT LOSE IN A FIGHT
EVEN AGAINST 3 SENIOR GIRLS
SO...
smile
DO YOU REALLY WANT TO FIGHT?
*BLOWING WIND
Let's go
I DIDN'T ASK FOR YOUR HELP

HEY
DO YOU LIKE GUYS?
NO!
I HATE GUYS
WHENEVER I SEE THEM
I FEEL DISGUSTED
ALL THE GUYS THAT GET NEAR ME
JUST IRRITATE ME
I DON'T FLIRT WITH THEM... LIKE EVERYONE THINKS
SURPRISED
.....
DIZZY...
TSUKISHIMA-SAN?
ARE YOU OKAY?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE SOME OF MY TEA?
CHEEK

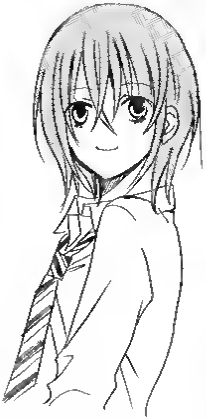
I SEE
I MIGHT HAVE SAID SOMETHING
SORRY
THUMP
I'M ANEMIC
BLOOD GOES INTO MY HEAD AND
SOMETIMES IT ENDS UP MAKING ME DIZZY
That was expected wasn't it
TUTTA
WHITE SKIN
A NICE FACE
AND SO FRAIL...
SHE'S LIKE A GIRL FROM A PAINTING
well
EVERYONE IS JUST JEALOUS AREN'T THEY
TSUKISHIMA-SAN IS PRETTY
SO OF COURSE YOU'RE POPULAR WITH THE GUYS
look at me
I'M NOT POPULAR AT ALL, IT MAKES ME KIND OF JEALOUS
THEY'RE AWFUL

THINK MEN ARE AWFUL
I
AWHILE AGO...
SOME-THING BAD HAPPENED
THEY ARE AWFUL
SLUT!
EYESORE!

I SEE
THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I STILL DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, I GUESS...
Ayumu!
Come back to club!
.....
HEY TSUKI-SHIMA-SAN
THEY ARE CALL-ING
YOU SHOULD GO
SEE YOU
SINCE WE'RE CLASS-MATES
WE SHOULD TALK MORE OFTEN
I KNOW THAT IT HURTS BUT
YOU CAN ALWAYS TALK TO ME YOU KNOW

EVERYONE
IS JUST
JEALOUS
Morning
Good morning
AYUMU, WHAT ARE YOU STARING AT IN THE LOCKER?
What is it?
.....

② Concerning Characters

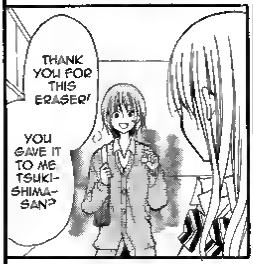


Kurihara Ayumu

Ayumu is the main character. In this manga she came to be just an ordinary character with no bad habits

Being that Ayumu is just an ordinary girl and I drew her that way I was able to draw her easily

The letters that I get saying that this girl is their favorite character make me so very happy! ^^



whisper
TSUKI-SHIMA-SAN IS CUTE
whisper
THE LINES OF HER BODY ARE PERFECT
whisper
ah!
What are you doing~
See! You can be cute if you try!
Wah~
Don't hang on me!
"SNEAKY AND THREATENING"
whisper
STUPID
We're going to get caught
HURRY UP AND TAKE THE PICTURE
ROGER!
Storma...

SURPRISE
MISUZU
SENSEI SAID THAT WE SHOULD FORM PAIRS. SO WE SHOULD BE TOGETHER!
staring...
YOU CALLED ME MISUZU...
WELL, IT'S JUST THAT WE ARE CLASSMATES AND ALL...
ah!
PLEASE JUST CALL ME AYUMU, OKAY?
bounce...
.....
LITTLE BY LITTLE
Gah!
I can't solve this problem...
.....
Amazing!
Are you a genius or something!?
Why can't you solve this anyways...
This goes like this
write
write

I FELT WE WERE BECOMING CLOSER

AH
unexpectedly
MISUZU, ARE YOU GOING BACK NOW?
WHAT'S THAT?
aha
I HURT MY HAND IN CLUB AND...
THE SCHOOL NURSE ISN'T HERE
SO I WAS GOING TO GIVE UP AND HEAD BACK
.....
保健室
*INFIRMARY

SELF CONTROL...
OW OW OW! IT STINGS IT STINGS!
BE MORE GENTLE!
...HAVE SOME SELF-CONTROL

*INFIRMARY
保健室
OW OW OW OW
IT STINGS IT STINGS!!
TIME OUT!

!
No way...
...MY FATHER IS A DOCTOR
WAIT, MISUZU, YOU KNOW HOW TO TREAT THIS?

HOW LONG WILL IT BE OKAY FOR ME...
ah...
HOW AM I GOING TO PAY YOU BACK FOR THIS
TOMORROW IT'S DEFINITELY GOING TO RAIN
.....
What was that?

...BUT
HE'S NOT MY REAL FATHER...

THEY'RE SO EMBARRASSING... THEY'D LOOK BETTER ON A GUY!
ha ha
I MEAN... MY HANDS ARE BIG, AREN'T THEY

...TO TRESPASS INTO THIS GIRL'S WORLD

THEY ARE LARGE
AND BEAUTIFUL HANDS
THEY'RE BEAUTIFUL
Surprise attack

I WAS TAKEN BY SURPRISE
REALLY?
I WANTED TO SAY THANKS, SO ON THE WAY HOME TODAY I'LL TREAT YOU TO A CREPE!
I DON'T HAVE CLUB TODAY, SO WHY DON'T WE GO BACK TOGETHER!?
MISUZU... THANK YOU FOR YESTERDAY
IT DOESN'T HURT AT ALL ANYMORE!
- 2
EH~
AYUMU, DO YOU HAVE PLANS FOR AFTER SCHOOL TODAY?
!
walk
walk
YEA, TODAY MIZUSU AND I ARE HEADING HOME TOGETHER
EH EVERYONE IS GOING TO KARAOKE THOUGH
ah
I'M SORRY

...
RECENTLY YOU'VE BEEN GETTING ALONG WITH THAT GIRL HAVEN'T YOU
YEA
IS THAT BAD?
WELL I'D NEVER GET ALONG WITH HER...
RIGHT?
I'M SICK OF YOU MAKING HER OUT TO BE A NICE GIRL
DON'T SAY THAT!
MISUZU IS NOT A BAD GIRL AT ALL
KARAOKE... INVITE ME NEXT TIME OKAY?
WELL, SEE YOU TOMORROW!

AH
WHEN YOU'RE WITH ME
YOU LOOK BAD IN FRONT OF YOUR FRIENDS
……
YOU HEARD THAT BACK THERE?
I'M SORRY
THOSE GIRLS STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND YOU

HAHA
DON'T SAY STUFF LIKE THAT
IF THEY WERE TO PROPERLY SPEAK TO
IF I WAS TO ONLY HAVE ONE PERSON BESIDE ME FOREVER, THAT WOULD BE OKAY
BUT YOU HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS
AND IF A STUPID RUMOR STARTED FLOATING AROUND
IT WOULD BE NICE IF EVERYONE KNEW ABOUT MIZUSU'S GOOD SIDE
BECAUSE THEN, SURELY
IT'S OKAY IF ONLY AYUMU UNDERSTANDS ME

IT'S OKAY IF IT'S JUST AYUMU
Mi... Mizusu...?
She said something really groundbreaking just now, didn't she?
*WALKING AWAY
スタスタ
.....
MIZUSU'S FEW WORDS ARE
AT TIMES
MORE PROFOUND THAN JUST WORDS

watching...
DEEP
AND PRO-FOUND
I...
I GET THE FEELING SOMEONE IS WATCHING ME LATELY...
It's making me nervous
stance
scratch
scratch
WHAT IS IT AYUMU
.....
AYUMU PERHAPS IT S YOU
Aha, that's so strange..
MAYBE IT'S MISUZU'S FANS

ME!? THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE
YOU KNOW I'M NOT POPULAR AT ALL
a ha ha
WHY?
YOU ARE TALL
AND YOU'VE GOT A PRETTY FACE
IS IT STRANGE THAT SOMEONE WOULD WANT TO DATE YOU?
kya!
BUT IT'S WRONG TO FOLLOW POPULAR PEOPLE AROUND!!
.....
WELL
THANK YOU!! SUCH A NICE GIRL!!
EVEN IF IT'S JUST FLATTERY, IT MAKES ME HAPPY
.....
pin pon pan pon
SECOND YEAR, CLASS 2, KURIHARA AYUMU PLEASE COME IMMEDIATELY TO THE OFFICE
ah
I WONDER WHAT THIS IS ABOUT..
I'M OFF FOR A BIT
mod
turn

WOMEN
IT'S LIKE SHE'S BEEN ALL CAUGHT UP WITH THAT TSUKISHIMA MISUZU, ISN'T IT?
WELL, AYUMU IS LIKE WAY TOO NICE
ISN'T SHE LIKE THE SORT OF GIRL THAT YOU CAN'T LEAVE ALONE?
WHAT'S THERE TO LIKE ABOUT HER. THAT GIRL'S PERSONALITY IS THE WORST!
LATELY AYUMU HASN'T BEEN SPENDING TIME WITH US HAS SHE...
YEA.
THE GIRLS FROM CLASS
DOING STUFF LIKE THAT
THE REAL REASON WHY AYUMU IS "CARING ABOUT FRIENDLESS GIRLS"
IS BECAUSE SHE'S AIMING TO GET POPULAR WITH THE GUYS!
EHHH NO WAY!
a ha ha ha
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT AYUMU?

TRRrr
OWW!
DON'T SAY BAD STUFF ABOUT AYUMU
Phew
FINALLY THE TEACHER FINISHED TALKING
mumble
mumble
SHUT UP YOU FREAK!
YOU MAKE ME SICK!

CUTTING IN ON SOMEONE ELSE'S BUSINESS!
WHAT!?
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
SCARY
YOU SAID SOME NASTY THINGS EARLIER
AND SO NOW I'M UPSET
chatter
chatter
chatter
EH!?
IT'S A FIGHT!
TSUKISHIMA -SAN AND THE GIRL ARMY
HUFF HUFF
I NEVER UNDER-STOOD YOU BUT
DO YOU ACTUALLY THINK YOU ARE FRIENDS WITH AYUMU?
AREN'T YOU A BIT FULL OF YOURSELF?
YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY A BURDEN TO AYUMU

*SHOVING PAST PEOPLE
WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
shove
MISUZU!?
*RUNNING FOOTSTEPS
AH AYUMU
JUST NOW IT WASN'T BECAUSE WE WERE MEAN OR ANYTHING
IT'S BECAUSE THAT GIRL IS SO STRANGE
WHAT DID YOU SAY!?
surprised
sigh

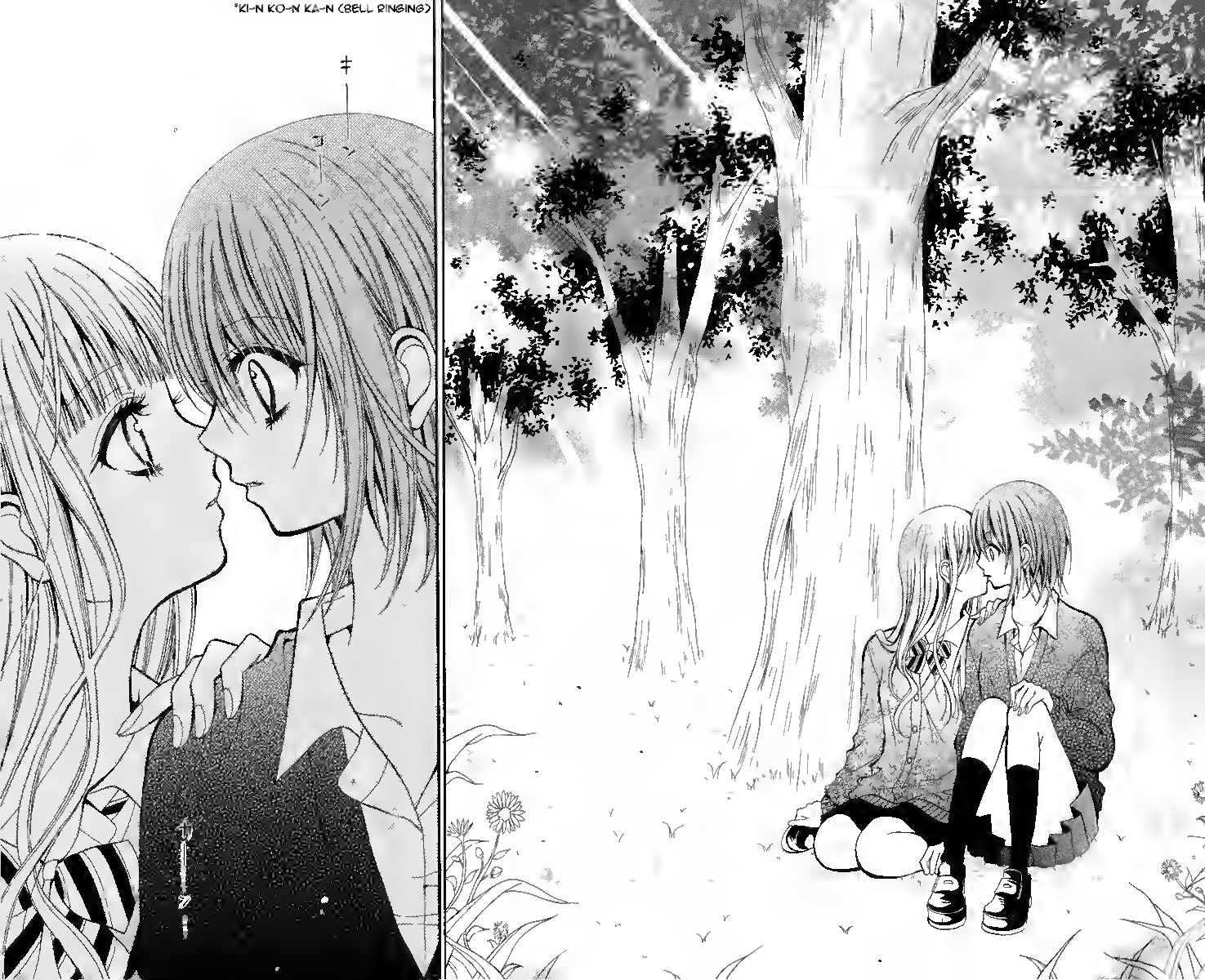
I DON'T KNOW
HOW MUCH SHE'S BEEN HURT IN THE PAST
AYUMU!
run
I DON'T KNOW
OR HOW DELICATE SHE IS
HOW AWKWARD THAT GIRL IS

MISUZU
SO YOU WERE HERE
THEY SAID,
YOU WERE STICKING UP FOR ME?

HERE WE GO
thump
AH...
THE WEATHER IS NICE ISN'T IT...
.....
...
THANK YOU
YOU REALLY ARE A GREAT PERSON
HEY, MISUZU
crying
I SPEND TIME WITH YOU BECAUSE I LIKE YOU
AND IT...
HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH POPULARITY, YOU KNOW

LOOK HERE! SMILE MISUZU!
baaam~!
SMILE SMILE!!
silence...
...Mi...
Misuzu?
...Huu
he
he
he
he

I DON'T KNOW
WHETHER TO TAKE THAT AS A COMPLIMENT OR NOT, MISUZU-CHAN
IT'S A COM-PLIMENT
haha
REALLY?
haha
YOU'RE
YOU'RE QUIET AGAIN, IT'S CUTE
I'VE NEVER MET SUCH AN INTERESTING PERSON BEFORE
YOU'RE STUPID
AND HARD HEADED SOMETIMES
YOU'RE TOO SOFT HEARTED


*KI-N KO-N KA-N (BELL RINGING)

*BLOWING WIND
ヒューあ…っ
…THE BELL RANG DIDN'T IT
LET'S GO BACK TO CLASS
…
YEA.
スタ
スタ
*WALKING OFF
BEFORE I KNEW IT
That was...

IN FEELINGS THAT I DIDN'T KNOW THE NAME OF
I HAD DROWNED

ブルーフレンド
BLUE FRIEND

第二話

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Blue Friend Behind-the-Scenes 1

The title of this serialization wasn't decided when I started it. I got together with a staff person to discuss several possibilities and they presented an idea that I liked, and so the title came to be "Blue Friend".

As for the title's logo, the designer made something really fantastic.
I was so happy with it! ♪(^∇^*)

Blue Friend: Chapter 2

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*SIGN DURING COOKING PRACTICE
*FLARING UP
crash
UU...
WAAAA
ボ"
!
FIRE!
FIRE!
調理実習中
EH?
stare
OW OW OW OW!
AH! KURIHARA-SAN ARE YOU OKAY!?
teacher
...I'LL TAKE YOU
TO THE INFIRMARY
shuffle...
I'M FINE, IT'S JUST A LIGHT BURN.

I'M REALLY OKAY!
IT'S FINE!
INFIRMARY
IT'S NOT FINE, GIVE ME YOUR HAND
IF I LICK IT IT'LL BE FINE!
I'M TELLING YOU IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL!
changed clothes
MISUZU
grab
SEE... IT HURTS, RIGHT?
.....!
THIS HAPPENED BECAUSE YOU WERE SPACING OUT YOU KNOW

MISUZU
YOU KNOW IT'S YOUR FAULT I WAS SPACING OUT.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME, BUT...
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF ME, MISUZU?
.....
FRIENDS
I KNOW, BUT...
KISSING IS
SOMETHING FRIENDS DO?

EH
IN ANY CASE IT WAS NOTHING MORE AND NOTHING LESS THAN THAT

...
SORRY
BUT I THOUGHT...

IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, IT'S COMMON TO GREET PEOPLE LIKE THAT

*WALKING AWAY
"GREETING"
SHE SAYS
...
CLASS IS GOING TO END SOON
WELL, LET'S GO BACK
W-WAIT A SEC... GREETING?
BUT ISN'T THIS JAPAN!?

AS I THOUGHT... I DON'T KNOW MISUZU VERY WELL
MISUZU-CHAN TURN THIS WAY~
COME PLAY WITH US!
"FOOTSTEPS"
WHO ARE THEY?
Third years?
I DONT KNOW, LETS GO
TOTALLY IGNORED
...
"IT'S A GREETING IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES"
PERHAPS I'M JUST A CONFUSED KID
Splash
Splash
MAYBE IT WASN'T THAT STRANGE
IT'S THE MIDDLE OF CLUB ACTIVITIES SO... I SHOULD CONCENTRATE
turn...
UMM
dab
dab

SECOND YEAR, CLASS 2 KURIHARA AYUMU-SAN RIGHT?
DO YOU HAVE MOMENT?
EHH...
WHO IS HE?
!
AH
SORRY, RIGHT NOW WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF CLUB PRACTICE SHE'S NOT HERE
COULD IT BE YOU'RE A FAN OF MISUZU?
THAT S NOT IT
THE...
THE REASON WHY I'M HERE IS YOU
EH
ME?
.....

I AM
HIRAI, 2ND YEAR CLASS 5
TRUTHFULLY, I HAVE WANTED TO TALK WITH AYUMU-SAN FOR A LONG TIME
THAT IS WHY
UMM

③ Concerning Characters Part 2

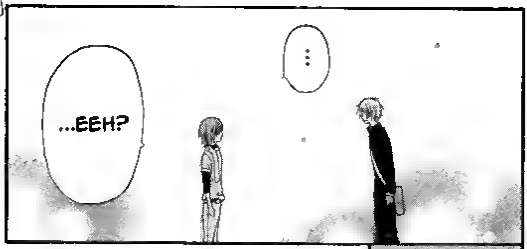
Tsukishima Misuzu

Drawing this girl is fun!

It's a habit though really.
I love drawing this character.

Understanding my likes and dislikes prepares me to draw the characters.

Bringing this to a close simply, in terms of this girl's ego. I guess I should say that I like it a lot ~_~;δ



EH!?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
SOMETHING TODAY IS REALLY MAKING YOU NERVOUS...
I CAN'T TELL MISUZU I WAS CONFESSED TO
I CAN'T TELL HER "I WAS CONFESSED TO FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE AND I'M CONFUSED"
EH
IT'S NOTHING!
I CAN'T TELL HER
AYUMU, YOU HAVE A GUEST
A BOY! ♡
EH

SORRY, YESTERDAY WAS
...
YESTERDAY WAS...
WELL, IT'S JUST THAT I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU AGAIN
WHAT!?
EEH!?
A BOY CAME TO VISIT AYUMU!?
worried
FIRST, CAN WE GO SOMEWHERE ELSE?
eavesdropping
gya
wait...
THAT WAS HIRAI FROM CLASS 5 JUST NOW!!
AYUMU CAN REALLY GET THEM IF SHE TRIES!!
AYUMU!? NO WAY!!
ABOUT YESTERDAY
SORRY THAT
I RAN AWAY
NO NO
I KNOW IT WAS HARD ON YOU HEARING THAT OUT OF THE BLUE
YOU MUST'VE BEEN ALL "WHO IS THIS?" SORRY ABOUT THAT
UMM, HIRAI-KUN
wasn't it?
I JUST WANTED TO KNOW
WHY ME?

...EEH
thump
I'M OKAY STARTING OFF AS FRIENDS
SO WON'T YOU BE FRIENDS WITH ME!
I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT WAS GREAT!
AND YOU GET ALONG WITH EVERYONE WITHOUT JUDGING THEM
AYUMU-SAN HAS LOTS OF FRIENDS
THAT'S NOT IT!
I THOUGHT THAT MOST GUYS WOULD ALWAYS SEE MISUZU AND NOT GIVE ME A SECOND LOOK

STICKING OUT HAND

AYUMU
CLASSES ARE STARTING
LET'S GO
WAIT A- MISUZU!?
Pull
.....
HEY-
THAT HURTS
WHY ALL OF A SUDDEN
..stop
WHO IS THAT PERSON TO YOU?
EH?
SINCE WHEN DID YOU BECOME FRIENDS_?

NOT REALLY FRIENDS PERSAY
WHY?
WE ONLY MET YESTERDAY
WHY DO I HAVE TO EXPLAIN SOME-THING LIKE THIS...
YOU KNOW
RECENTLY THAT TSUKISHIMA-SAN'S BEEN ALL OVER AYUMU
haha
MISUZU IS AN INTEREST-ING GIRL
WELL...
SHE NEVER SPEAKS TO ANYONE ELSE EITHER
yea yea
SHE'S ONLY LIKE THAT WITH AYUMU
giggle
BUT, WELL
DON'T YOU THINK TSUKISHIMA-SAN HAS "THAT VIBE" ABOUT HER?

SLAM
SHE'S BEEN CONFESSED TO OVER AND OVER BUT SHE WON'T GO OUT WITH A GUY...
I BET SHE'S REALLY INTO GIRLS!
EEH, NO WAY
Kyahaha
silence...
A-AYUMU...?
Are you angry?
W...WE WERE JUST KIDDING...
RIGHT...
I THINK MEN ARE AWFUL.

SURELY IT'S SIMPLY THAT
look!
THE BASKET-BALL TEAM IS HAVING A MATCH
SO COOL
...AH
*FEET HITTING THE FLOOR
shoot
swish
waaaa...
EH
SO HE WAS IN THE BASKET-BALL CLUB

AYUMU SAN!
GYA!
HIRAI-KUN, YOU'RE GOOD AT BASKET-BALL HUH?
I DIDN'T KNOW
no no
AYUMU-SAN'S SOFTBALL SKILLS HAVE ME BEAT
!
WHENEVER I WATCHED YOU PLAY I THOUGHT YOU WERE SO COOL!
WHEN EVER...
AH
!
I'M ASHAMED TO SAY IT BUT I DON'T COME OFF AS A GIRL AT ALL...
I BET I LOOK REALLY BOYISH WHEN I PLAY THOUGH
ah
ah haha

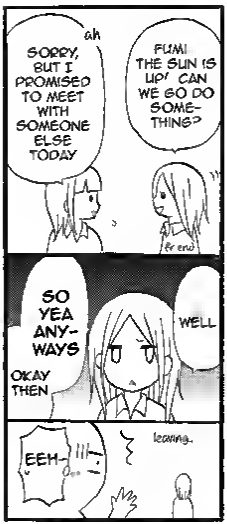
AYUMU-SAN, YOU'RE PRETTY JUST BEING YOURSELF
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?
SOMETHING WAS RUSHING AROUND IN MY BODY
LIKE AN ELEC-TRIC SHOCK
*RUSTLING WIND/LEAVES

④ Friend Episode

"Friend" came to be a keyword in this manga and on that note I would say friendships are sometimes fun but also sometimes difficult.

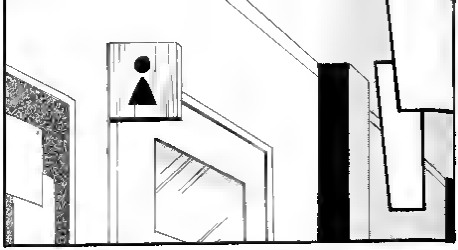
I've felt for a long time that the kids making many friends are strong-minded children.

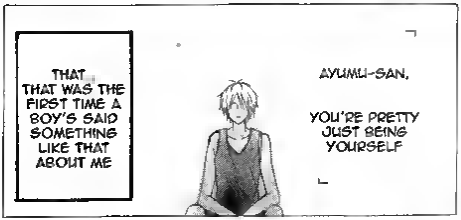
It's something like that...



No one would listen to a mouth like that for even a little while (laugh).

I guess... That's the way it is.





turn
DID I SURPRISE YOU?
hehe
I WAS WAITING FOR YOUR CLUB TO FINISH, AYUMU
MISUZU...
YOU DID SURPRISE ME... YOU WERE WAITING FOR ME?
THUMP
THUMP
DID YOU NOT WANT ME TO?
NO, THAT'S NOT...
dun
dun

I WAS SUR-PRISED
WELL, WE CAN GO HOME TOGETHER THEN
turn.
I'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU AT THE GATES, OKAY?
SINCE WHEN
WAS MISUZU SO CLOSE TO ME...?
See you.
Later.
rustle.
YOU'RE ANNOYING
... DO YOU NEED SOME-THING?
TSUKI-SHIMA-SAN...?

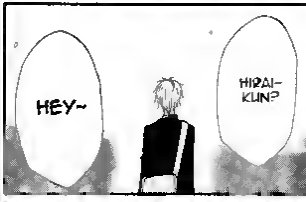
DON'T GO NEAR AYUMU

HIRAI-KUN
oh
THAT'S...
morning
so morning
Hiraizumi

G- GOOD MORNING
GOOD MORNING-ING
AYUMU-SAN, DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?
EH
WHAT IS IT?
.....
EVEN THOUGH IT WASN'T FOR LONG, I'M GLAD YOU LET ME TALK TO YOU
THANK YOU AYUMU-SAN
?
ahaha
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOURSELF TO TALK TO ME ANY MORE
BUT IT'S FINE NOW

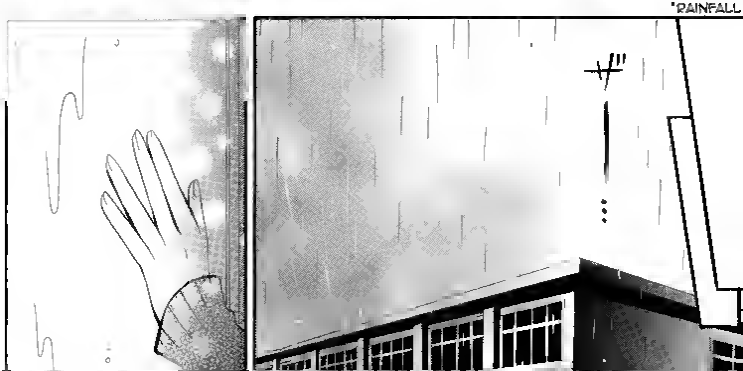
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?

WAIT...
WHAT'S THE MATTER!?
SEE YOU

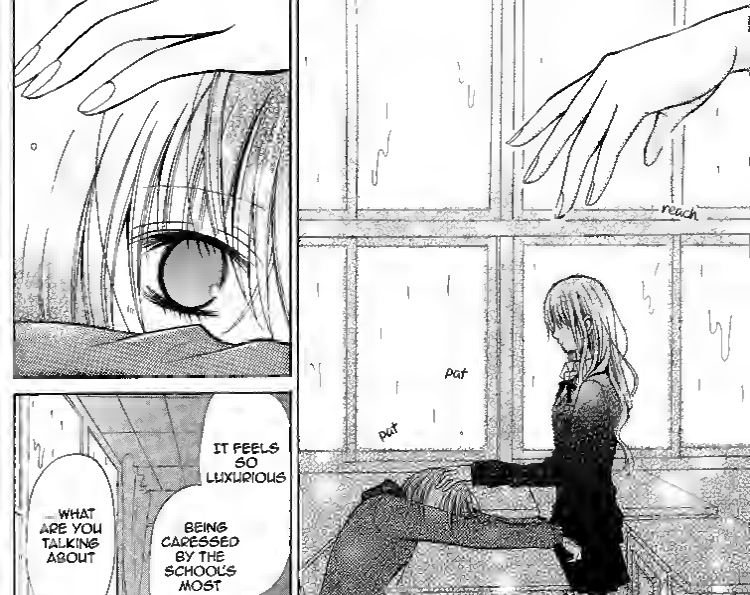

HEY~
HIRAI-KUN?

WHAT...?

*RAINFALL



AYUMU
SCHOOL'S OUT YOU KNOW
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN...?
IT'S REALLY RAINING, ISN'T IT
*RAINFALL
I DON'T KNOW
WHAT I DID WRONG AT ALL...
A PERSON SAYING THAT THEY DON'T WANT TO BE AROUND YOU...
DEFINITELY MAKES ME SAD
I KNOW YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT
SORRY
BUT... IT DEFINITELY MAKES ME SAD


reach
Pat
Pat
IT FEELS SO LUXURIOUS
BEING CARESSED BY THE SCHOOL'S MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL
...WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT

*RAINFALL
THOUGH I'M A BIT DOWN
I'LL STILL DO MY BEST
Well
WITH THIS RAIN, CLUB WILL BE INDOORS
AYUMU

eh
WE SAW THEM DIDN'T WE!? WE SAW HIRAI AND TSUKISHIMA ARGUING!
DUMPED?
WHERE DID THAT STORY COME FROM...
HIRAI IS SO COOL THOUGH, WHY-!?
WAIT, AYUMU!
YOU DUMPED THAT GUY DIDN'T YOU?
It's such a waste!
...EH!?
EH? DIDN'T YOU ASK TSUKISHIMA TO TALK TO HIRAI?
TELLING HIM TO TAKE BACK THE CONFESSION
MISUZU? WHY WAS MISUZU INVOLVED?
.....
hehe
WHAT?
I WOULD NEVER ASK HER TO DO THAT
...EH?

*RAINFALL
pant
pant
MISUZU
stop...
WAIT
I HAVE SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK YOU
...HEY
WHAT DID YOU SAY TO HIRAI-KUN?

THAT PERSON
ISN'T SUITABLE FOR AYUMU
HIRAI-KUN IS A GOOD PERSON
BUT NOW... YOU DID THAT...
WHY
NO
NO WAY
WHY ?
WHY DID YOU DO THAT WITHOUT ASKING ME!?
I WAS SO HAPPY
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME MY HEART HAD RACED LIKE THAT.
WHO I CAN AND CAN'T MEET
ISN'T SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN DECIDE FOR ME!
Gaaa
MISUZU, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND MY FEELINGS!

clatter..
HE ANNOYED ME
EVERY TIME I SAW HIM I FELT ANGRY..
HE WAS JUST GETTING IN THE WAY
I DON'T WANT THAT GUY TO STEAL YOU AWAY AYUMU...!

crying...
AND WITH THAT SUDDEN OUT-BURST...
SOMEWHERE IN MY HEART
I WANT YOU AYUMU...!
I...
I...
I WAS
AFRAID OF MISUZU

ブルーフレンド
BLUE FRIEND

第三話

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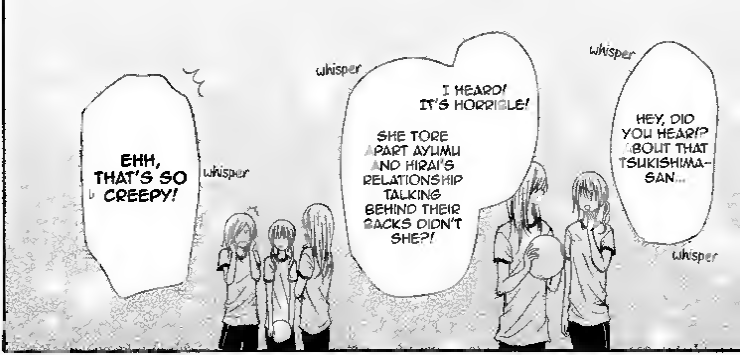
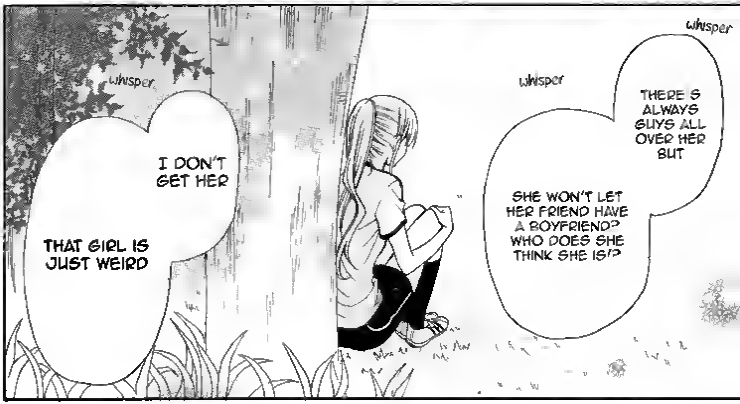
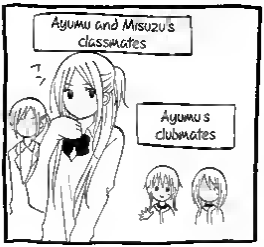

whisper
EHH, THAT'S SO CREEPY!
whisper
I HEARD IT'S HORRIBLE!
SHE TORE APART AYUMU AND HIRAI'S RELATIONSHIP TALKING BEHIND THEIR BACKS DIDN'T SHE?!
whisper
HEY, DID YOU HEAR!? ABOUT THAT TSUKISHIMA-SAN...
whisper


whisper
I DON'T GET HER
THAT GIRL IS JUST WEIRD
whisper
whisper
THERE'S ALWAYS GUYS ALL OVER HER BUT
SHE WON'T LET HER FRIEND HAVE A BOYFRIEND? WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS!?



Blue Friend Behind-the-Scenes Part 2

Every chapter they get more and more appearances. They're not bad at heart, it's just that whenever these girls hear a rumour they can't help but gossip about it.

Well, it's not like that kind of behaviour isn't common in girls that age. I also think that this manga's world is shaped by these girls in a way.

Blue Friend: Chapter 3

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EWW... SHE'S LOOKING AT US
SHE'LL STEAL YOUR BOYFRIEND! RUN AWAY!
giggle giggle
roll
whack
What an annoyance
giggle giggle
.....
AYUMU
THAT GIRL DID SOMETHING HORRIBLE TO YOU
JUST STOP TRYING TO BE HER FRIEND ALREADY!
IF IT WAS US, WE WOULD HAVE IMMEDIATELY CUT IT OFF WITH THAT GIRL
JUST RUN AWAY

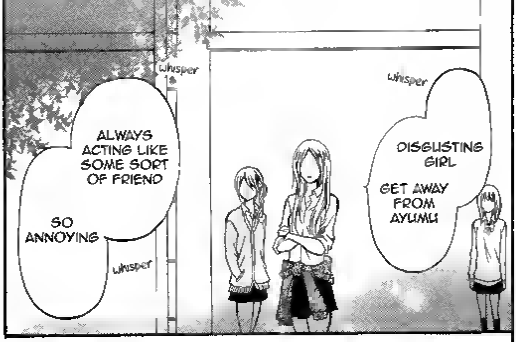
WE SHOULD HEAD BACK TO THE DRESSING ROOM
WHAT'S THE NEXT CLASS MATH?
*LEAVING AS A GROUP
ばちっ…
!
*EYES MEETING
THE RUMORS SPREAD QUICKLY
……
RUN…
IT DIDN'T TAKE ANY TIME AT ALL
FOR THE GIRLS TO START HARASSING MISUZU
SHE'S SO POSSESSIVE!
AND IT'S ANOTHER GIRL TOO! THAT'S SUPER CREEPY!

THOUGH I'VE THOUGHT THAT I'D GO OUT WITH YOU IF YOU WERE A GUY, AYUMU!
FUUJA~
AYUMU IS POPULAR AMONG THE GIRLS ISN'T SHE
STOP IT
hoho...
BUT... IF TSUKISHIMA-SAN REALLY IS THAT WAY WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
WHAT IF SHE REALLY LIKES YOU AYUMU!
SORRY
CAN WE JUST STOP TALKING ABOUT THIS?
silence...
WELL
I'M GOING ON AHEAD BACK TO THE CLASSROOM
whisper
AYUMU... IS CRANKY, ISN'T SHE
Poor girl.
whisper
SHE'S GOT TO GIVE HER A STRAIGHT ANSWER THIS TIME...
whisper

THEY SAID THAT I "SHOULDN'T BE FRIENDS WITH TSUKISHIMA-SAN ANYMORE," AND YET
sigh...
SINCE THAT DAY
I HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING TO MISUZU
I DON'T WANT AYUMU STOLEN AWAY BY THAT GUY...!
step...
AYUMU
startled
BUT I KNOW WHY THOUGH
IT'S BECAUSE I'M ONLY RUNNING AWAY

badum
badum
badum
AYUMU
I WANT TO TALK
AYUMU I
AH! A TEACHER CALLED FOR ME!
stand
grab
AYUMU..
I WANT YOU AYUMU!
turn
WAIT, AYUMU
DON'T GO...

LET GO...!
..haa
AH
SORR
softly
SHUT UP!
GO AWAY!
*PULLING AWAY QUICKLY



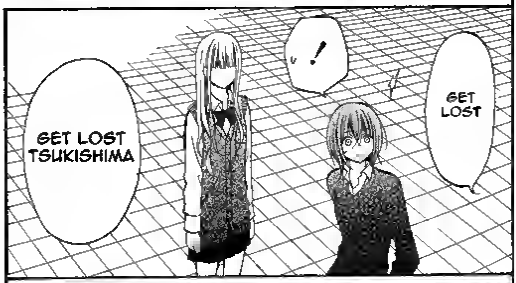
(5) ...continued

From when I entered high school I fought endlessly with my girl friends every day. Sometimes in the corridor. Sometimes in the classroom. When I look back now I often think, "Why in the world did we fight over something as tiny as that?"

I guess you're always sensitive about the little things when you're a teenager. You get hurt by the slightest touch, get annoyed by the littlest thing.

Well they do say that fights make friendships stronger!

I have very few people now that I can call friends but I'm thankful that there's at least one person that I can call my "true friend." I vow to treat you better from now on!



TO BE ABLE TO ACCEPT MISUZU
HOWEVER
I DON'T THINK I'M GROWN UP ENOUGH
Whisper
Whisper
SHE DESERVED IT THOUGH, DIDN'T SHE
TSUKI-SHIMA-SAN IS ABSENT TODAY TOO
*INFIRMARY
I DON'T FEEL WELL.
I'M GONNA SKIP CLASS IN THE INFIRMARY
保健室
hmm..
THE NURSE IS NEVER AROUND ANYWAY...

EH? SHE'S HERE?
WHAT IS IT? ARE YOU HURT AGAIN?
OR ARE YOU JUST CUTTING CLASS?
NO HAHA HA
It's... It's hard to say...
REALLY? WELL, YOU LOOK RATHER PALE... DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
OH?
AREN'T YOU THE 2ND YEAR KURIHARA-SAN?
IS SOME-THING WRONG?
WHAT? I LOOK PALE?
check
IN ANY CASE I AM HEARING VARIOUS THINGS...
DIDN'T YOU GET INTO AN ARGUMENT WITH THAT TSUKISHIMA-SAN?
IT WOULD BE NICE IF YOU COULD MAKE UP WITH EACH OTHER SOON, WOULDN'T IT?
YES
YOU SHOULD REST UNTIL YOU CALM DOWN
I'M HEADING OUT FOR A BIT, ALRIGHT?

I CAN'T MOVE
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
?
Calling...
IT'S NOT GOOD...
...THAT THE NEWS IS SPREADING TO THE TEACHERS
SNOOZE
MISUZU..
YOU'RE WEARING YOUR GYM CLOTHES INSIDE OUT
HIRAI, YOU RETARD
gya ha ha ha
KNOCK IT OFF!
IT'S FASHION! FASHION!
THERE ARE VOICES OUTSIDE
Peer
WHAT!? THAT'S...

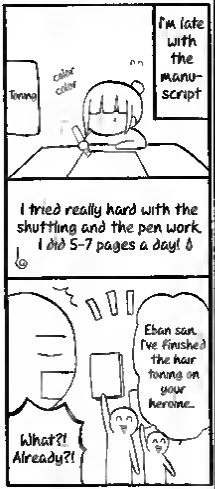
NO WAY
HIRAI-KUN!?
gya ha ha ha
HIRAI-KUN WAS THIS CLOSE!?
thum
WH... WHY...?
thum
WELL HIRAI...
RUMOR HAS IT THAT YOU WERE TURNED DOWN BY KURIHARA AYUMU!
WHAT'S WITH THAT RUMOR?
thump
NO WAY
WHAT'S WITH THIS TIMING?

...HUH?
KURIHARA AYUMU? I WASN'T AIMING FOR HER IN THE FIRST PLACE!
RIGHT FROM THE START
I WAS PLANNING TO USE HER TO GET TSUKISHIMA MISUZU!

ANYONE WHO GOT REJECTED THAT MANY TIMES IS GONNA GET PRETTY M[illegible]D!
HOW MANY TIMES DO YOU THINK I'VE CONFESSED TO TSUKISHIMA-SAN?
IT'S 3 TIMES, 3 TIMES!
SO I DECIDED TO GET CLOSE TO HER FRIEND
PRETENDING TO BE A REAL NICE, INNOCENT GUY
SHHHH!
BE QUIET!
DON'T SHOUT MY PLANS OUT LOUD!
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT HIRAI?
I'VE LIKED YOU FOR A LONG TIME!
TIME TO MEET UP WITH YOU SO...
DON'T GET NEAR AYUMU!
AND THEN OF COURSE TSUKISHIMA-SAN MADE A FUSS
SHE CAME TO ME AND SAID

DON'T HURT AYUMU...
gya ha ha ha
HIRA! YOU'RE THE WORST!
SERIOUSLY, YOU'RE A MONSTER!
WELL ANYWAYS

(6) What happened while writing the manuscript


I'm late with the manuscript
Toning
color color
I tried really hard with the shuttling and the pen work. I did 5-7 pages a day! ♪
Eban san, I've finished the hair toning on your heroine...
What?! Already?!

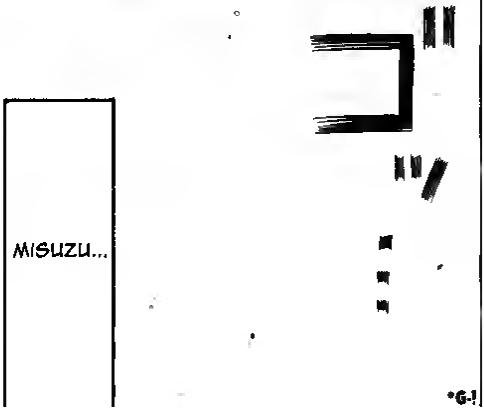
Ayumu's hair, clothes and most of the rest of her toning was done by my lovely assistant.

It's because of them that I can get all my manuscripts out on time every month.

Thank you all sooo much! ♪

I'm so happy that you're all such kind people.

I'll work hard to get my parts done faster too!



MISUZU
月島
TSUKISHIM
roll
KNOCK
KNOCK
MISUZU
ARE YOU THERE?

IT'S ME
HAVEN'T YOU BEEN ABSENT FROM SCHOOL THE LAST FEW DAYS?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN THAT MADE YOU NOT WANT TO GO?
PULL
DON'T HUMILIATE YOUR FATHER
LIKE THAT TIME
SHUT UP!
SLAM

RAINFALL
YOU'RE NOT MY FATHER!
DON'T TALK TO ME LIKE THAT EVER AGAIN!
HEY
THE GIRL OVER THERE SEEMS A BIT STRANGE DOESN'T SHE?
Whisper
Whisper
SHE'S BARE-FOOT
DRIPPING WET AND NOT EVEN MOVING

pin
pon
A PLACE TO BELONG
I THOUGHT... THAT EVERYONE HAD ONE
click...
YES?
thump
AH, UMM IS MISUZU-SAN HERE?
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR MISUZU, SHE'S NOT HERE
A PLACE TO BELONG...
EH?
.....
ha
AND YOU'RE A FRIEND OF HERS?
THAT'S HARD TO BELIEVE
click...

..SHE NEVER HAD ONE TO BEGIN WITH
...O!
LOOK OVER THERE
motionless...
...HEY DID YOU HEAR ME?
O! HELLO IN THERE
silence...
HELLO~
ALL ALONE ARE WE?
YOU'RE TOTALLY SOAKED, ARE YOU OKAY?
IF YOU STAY IN A PLACE LIKE THIS, YOU'LL CATCH A COLD YOU KNOW?
WE CAN TAKE YOU TO A NICE WARM PLACE
grab...

YOU'RE DIRTY
DON'T TOUCH ME
...HUH?
WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW?
I CALLED YOU ALL DIRTY
BETRAYING PEOPLE SO CALMLY...
EVERYONE ALWAYS STEALS
EVERYTHING I HOLD DEAR
splash
...FILTH
...HUH
Wait a...
THAT'S WHAT ALL MEN ARE
WHAT WAS THAT, YOU BRAT!
2000...

SORRY, YOU WERE WAITING!?
I'M LATE, I'M REALLY SORRY!!
WELL, LET'S GO
WAIT WHO ARE YOU?
WE WERE TALKING TO THAT GIRL FIRST!
MISUZU!
RUN
STAY
...

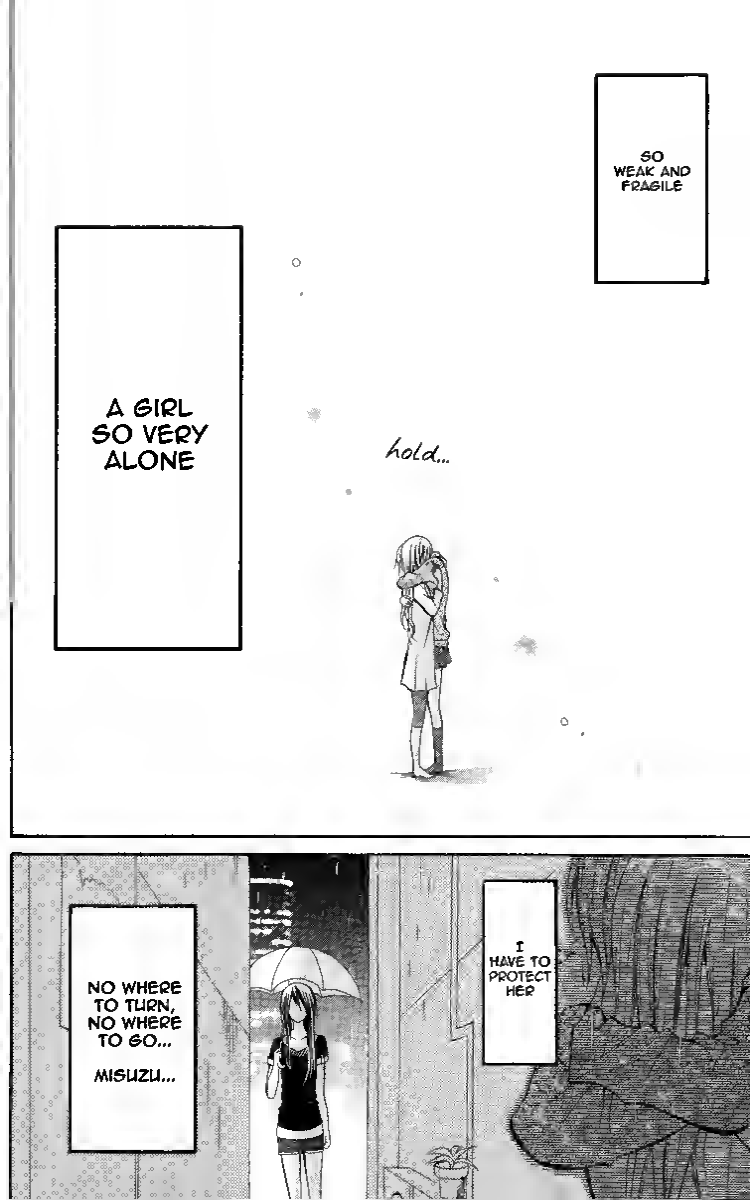
RUN!
run...
ah!
THEY'RE RUNNING AWAY!
HEY WAIT UP~
WE GOT AWAY.
.....
pant
pant
Wait for us..
Where did you go?
ハァ
ハァ

I'M SORRY!!
surprised
sigh
GUYS ARE REALLY JUST A BUNCH OF JERKS AREN'T THEY
JUST LIKE YOU SAID
ha ha
UMM
.....
I WAS HAPPY AND IT BLINDED ME
I CAUGHT THAT GOOD FOR NOTHING HIRAI
SAYING BAD THINGS ABOUT YOU.
I WAS STUPID AND A JERK, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
THINKING ABOUT IT, IT WAS WEIRD THAT A GUY CONFESSED TO ME

...YOU WERE GOING AROUND BEHIND MY BACK TRYING TO MAKE SURE I DIDN'T GET HURT!
AND I DIDN'T REALIZE IT... I'M SUCH A JERK...
clutch...
AYUMU
YOU'RE DIFFERENT THAN ALL THOSE BOYS WHO JUST WANT TO MAKE OUT WITH ME...
AND YOU'RE DIFFERENT THAN ALL THOSE GOSSIPING GIRLS TOO

THE ONLY ONE WHO GENUINELY TREATS ME NICELY
IS YOU, AYUMU
.....
cry...
I WAS HAPPY...
I COULDN'T STOP BEING SELFISH...
..I...
EVERY TIME AYUMU THOUGHT OF OTHER PEOPLE... I FELT LIKE I WAS FALLING APART

PLEASE
DON'T HATE ME, AYUMU
...hic
DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE...
THE QUIET SOUND OF RAIN AND MISUZU'S SMALL CRIES ECHOED
IN THE ALLEY DEVOID OF ANY OTHER PEOPLE
I MADE HER BEAR IT ALL ALONE
LEFT HER TO BE HARASSED BY THE GIRLS...
I HAD LEFT MIZUSU ALONE WITH HIRAI-KUN
WHEN SHE HAD NOWHERE ELSE TO GO...


SO WEAK AND FRAGILE
A GIRL SO VERY ALONE
hold...
NO WHERE TO TURN, NO WHERE TO GO...
MISUZU...
I HAVE TO PROTECT HER

I HAVE TO PROTECT
.....
TSUKI-SHIMA
MISUZU...

ブルーフレンド
BLUE FRIEND

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Blue Friend Behind-the-Scenes Part 3

Since Blue Friend was serialised I've begun using a coloring program called SAI.. but I still have no clue how to use it at all! I keep hearing from people that "SAI is soo easy!" but...really?! Lately I've just been using Skype to talk to some of my friends who know a lot about CG and they're teaching me a lot of things about coloring!

I feel like I've descended into an amazing world... in many ways.

Blue Friend: Chapter 4

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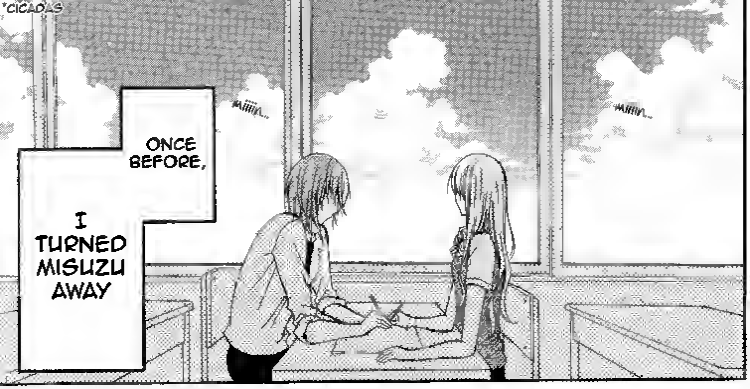
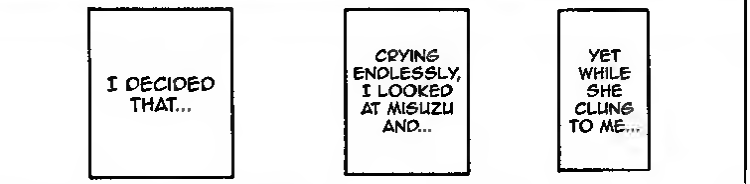
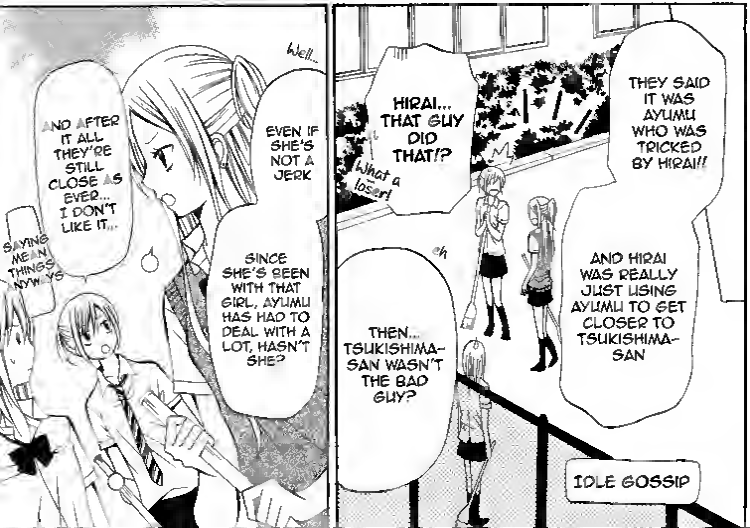
whisper
IT'S TSUKISHI MA-SAN
SHE'S CUTE AND YET
whisper
whisper
IT'S BEEN AWHILE SINCE SHE'S BEEN AT SCHOOL HASN'T IT?
SHE CREEPS GUYS OUT
stare
thud
GOOD MORNING MISUZU!
HEY, HAVE YOU LOOKED THROUGH THE TEXTBOOK FOR MATH YET?
thematics
IT JUST OCCURRED TO ME TODAY, BUT I WAS WONDERING IF YOU MIGHT HELP ME

IT.. IT'S FINE
I'M...
Eh. I thought they weren't speaking?
stare...
I'M JUST HAPPY TO BE ABLE TO TALK TO YOU AGAIN, AYUMU...
clutch
SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME ANY MORE





WE WOULDN'T BE APART AGAIN


Well...
EVEN IF SHE'S NOT A JERK
SINCE SHE'S BEEN WITH THAT GIRL, AYUMU HAS HAD TO DEAL WITH A LOT, HASN'T SHE?
AND AFTER IT ALL THEY'RE STILL CLOSE AS EVER... I DON'T LIKE IT...
SAYING MEAN THINGS! NYW...YS
HIRAI... THAT GUY DID THAT!?
What a loser!
THEN... TSUKISHIMA-SAN WASN'T THE BAD GUY?
AND HIRAI WAS REALLY JUST USING AYUMU TO GET CLOSER TO TSUKISHIMA-SAN
THEY SAID IT WAS AYUMU WHO WAS TRICKED BY HIRAI!!
IDLE GOSSIP

AIN'T IT NICE! BLABBING ABOUT HOW UGLY THAT GIRL IS!
!
HEY YOU GUYS! DON'T GO AROUND SNEAKING BEHIND PEOPLE'S BACKS TOO MUCH!
I CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THIS SHIT
AT LEAST KEEP ME AMUSED!
WELL, I'M GOING TO CLUB THEN
OKAY
TAKE CARE ON YOUR WAY HOME, MISUZU
AYUMUUU~! DID YOU GET A CLUB SCHEDULE?
EH, THERE'S ALREADY A SCHEDULE?
Let me see
watching...

⑦ Pet Talk

I started taking care of a rabbit this year.

Mint-chan
female

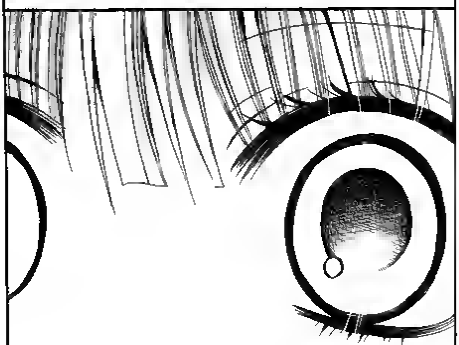
She's really really cute!

♡♡♡

I went to the pet shop and fell in love with her at first sight. I ended up buying her but... She's so cute it's dangerous! Though, isn't life better with a pet?

But sometimes this happens...

If you leave her alone she eats all kinds of paper so beware!!



ba-dum
ba-dum
ba-dum
ba-dum
ba-dum
ba-dum...
shake.
Ahaha No way
So yea
!?
WH-MISUZU
AYUMU, PLEASE
DON'T GO TO CLUB..
STAY WITH ME TODAY
cling
AYUMU
!

...EH!?
WHAT!? WAIT JUST A MOMENT TSUKISHIMA-SAN
WHY SHOULD AYUMU HAVE TO SKIP CLUB JUST 'CAUSE OF YOU?
YOU REALLY PISS ME OFF!
SLOW
thud
...WHA
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?
looming...
...EH

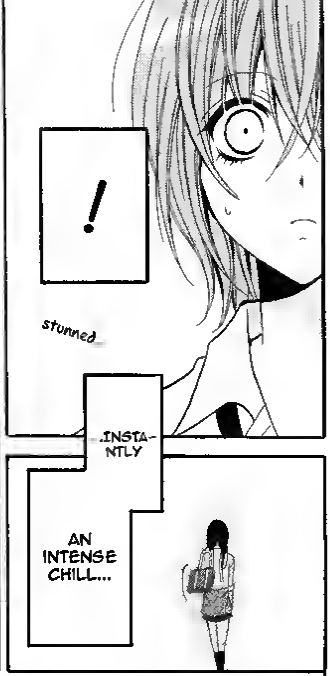
ME ♡
...um
AZUMA-SAN...?
hehe...
I'M SORRY?
MY HAND SLIPPED
chatter
EH, THAT'S
YOU'RE KIDDING, AZUMA-SAN...!?
WASN'T SHE SUSPENDED, !?

chatter
chatter
chatter
chatter
EH? WHAT? IS SHE FAMOUS?
AYUMU, YOU DON'T KNOW!?
THAT PERSON IS...
smile
!
EH
EH!?
NO WAY... SHE'S COMING TOWARDS ME...
stride...

YAHOO, MISUZU-CHAN ♡
IT'S BEEN AWHILE
DOING WELL?

...EH?
HEY, AZUMA SATSUKI!!
THERE REALLY ARE PEOPLE WHO ONLY SHOW UP AFTER SCHOOL'S OVER!
OH NO! THEY'RE CALLING ME IN!
COME ON!! WE'RE GOING TO THE STAFF ROOM THIS INSTANT!!
turn
SEE YOU LATER, MISUZU
BYE
...hehe

cling
!
AYUMU
PLEASE DON'T EVER BE FRIENDS WITH THAT PERSON..


!
stunned..
..INSTA-NTLY
AN INTENSE CHILL...

NOT REALLY
WE WENT TO THE SAME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUT...
.. THAT WAS IT

EH? WAIT.. YOU KNOW HER MISUZU?
That's unusual
EH.. UMM.. SOMEONE FROM AWHILE BACK?
I WON'T MAKE FRIENDS WITH HER NOR TRY TO TALK TO HER, BUT..
.....

SORRY... I'M GOING HOME
turn
EH... WAIT, MISUZU!?
leaving
.....?
DID YOU HEAR? AZUMA SATSUKI'S SUSPENSION WAS LIFTED!
Gah!
YOU'RE KIDDING!? THAT'S SCARY...
OH, SHE WAS THAT GIRL WHO GOT SUSPENDED FOR BREAKING THAT WINDOW A WHILE BACK, WASN'T SHE?
A WINDOW!?
Ehhh
DIDN'T YOU KNOW ABOUT HER AYUMU? SHE'S REALLY WELL-KNOWN
We never go anywhere near her!
I ONLY REMEMBER STUFF ABOUT CLASSMATES AND CLUB MEMBERS...
WELL, THAT PERSON RARELY EVER CAME TO SCHOOL AND
FOR NOW IT'S BEST TO STAY AWAY FROM HER
Yea
Ayumu...
MISUZU... HOW DOES SHE KNOW ABOUT A GIRL LIKE THIS...
Not paying attention
WELL

IF IT'S NOTHING, THEN IT'S ALRIGHT...?
A dirty girl keeping secret past mistakes from a friend. You shouldn't even be allowed to have friends!
shuffle
rattle
clatter
turn
GOOD MORNING MISUZU
WHO
slump...
?
WHAT'S THE MATTER? JUST STANDING THERE LIKE THAT
HEY, DID YOU DO TODAY'S HOMEWORK YET?

clench
I AM TOTALLY STUCK ON IT WHAT AM I GONNA DO ABOUT FINALS?
AYUMU
DON'T HATE ME
DON'T HATE ME, OKAY
IT WAS A PROMISE, RIGHT
TSUKISHIMA -SAN, ARE YOU HERE?
swoosh
HEY, I CALLED FOR YOU
BOY GANG

Uuuu
SOME WEIRD GUYS ARE HERE
AH UMM
MISUZU DOESN'T LIKE TALKING TO PEOPLE LIKE YOU
So
YOU AREN'T GOING TO TALK WITH HER
HMM? WHO ARE YOU TO DECIDE THAT?
IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
HURRY UP AND GO GET MISUZU -CHAN
WHAT'S WITH THESE GUYS
Step..
YOU HAVE NO BUSINESS WITH ME
GET LOST

chatter
Ukiuki...
Mii-n...
WAIT, MISUZU
DON'T YOU THINK YOU SAID A LITTLE TOO MUCH BACK THERE?
YOU'VE GOT TO GIVE SOME PEOPLE A CHANCE ONCE IN A WHILE...
Mii-n...
Mii-n...
...
...HMM?
YOU DID, AND BECAUSE OF THAT YOU WERE TRICKED!
WHY SHOULD I SHOW GUYS ANY KINDNESS!
YOU KNOW... BE NICE AND...

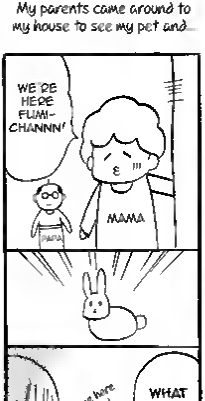
I'M FEELING A LITTLE IRRITATED ALL OF A SUDDEN
I'M GONNA GO HOME FIRST, OKAY?
.....
turn
I'M SORRY AYUMU
!
grab
DON'T GET ANGRY...
..I DON'T NEED GUYS!
I'M HAPPY JUST TO BE WITH YOU, AYUMU!
YOU UNDERSTAND ME, DON'T YOU AYUMU!?
...?
...STRANGE

LATELY MISUZU HAS BEEN GETTING IRRITATED EASILY...
AND IF I THINK ABOUT IT, SHE'S BEEN ACTING SPOILED OUT OF THE BLUE TOO
SHE'S NOT HER NORMAL SELF
AYUMU... WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
...EH, THE TEACHER WANTED ME
So I have to go
I'M COMING TOO
EH IT'S FINE, IT'S NOTHING IMPORTANT
IT'S PROBABLY JUST ODD JOBS AGAIN...
WELL, THEN HURRY BACK!
YOU DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
YOU'VE BEEN ACTING ODD LATELY, YOU KNOW?

NEVER-MIND
turn
?
WHAT WAS THAT...
Ah
YOU'RE HERE KURIHARA -SAN
CAN YOU TAKE THESE BOXES TO THE STORAGE ROOM
SENSEI, I'M JUST A FEEBLE LITTLE GIRL!
ehh
A frail student
YEA YEA
DIDN'T I LET YOU USE THE INFIRMARY THE OTHER DAY?
hehe
...
AH, DIDN'T I HEAR THAT YOU MADE UP WITH TSUKISHIMA-SAN?
smile
THAT'S GREAT ISN'T IT
...YES
heave!
AGAIN
Storage Room

(8) Continued

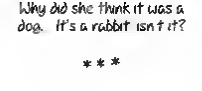
My parents came around to my house to see my pet and...



Why did she think it was a dog... It's a rabbit isn't it?

* * *

With the rest of the space I'll explain what my father says.



My father always starts every meeting with "You haven't changed a bit."

End

I HAVE THIS STRANGE, "UN-COMFORTABLE FEELING"
drop...
WE... MADE-UP RIGHT?
DEFINITELY! IT'S NOT AN ISSUE ANYMORE
MISUZU WILL BE WAITING IN THE CLASSROOM, I BETTER HURRY BACK...

HELLO ♡
pull
I WAS WONDERING WHO WAS HERE AND
IT'S YOU AGAIN
MISUZU'S FAVORITE PET

!?
AH THAT WAS A NICE NAP
retreat...
THE STORAGE ROOM ISN'T VERY COMFORTABLE, THOUGH...
bo-dump...
FUWA...
"DO NOT BE FRIENDS WITH THAT PERSON"
THIS PERSON IS...
THE RUMORED PROBLEM GIRL THAT MISUZU SOMEHOW KNOWS...
AZUMA SATSUKI!
smile
...!?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING
THUMP
THUMP
WHAT, MY SIESTA?
I LEFT CLASS BECAUSE I WAS TIRED

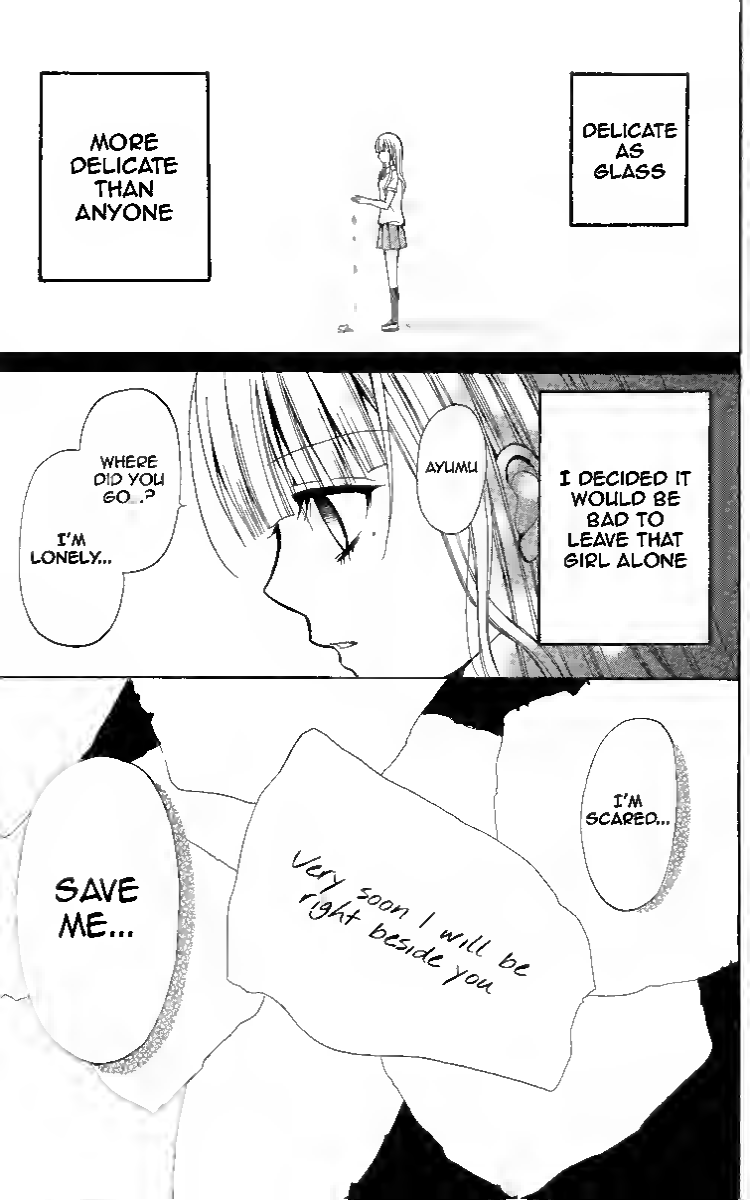
INSTINCTIVELY RESPECTFUL
"THAT GIRL"... ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT MISUZU?
YOU'VE BEEN GETTING IT ON, HAVEN'T YOU?
YOU
hehe..
THAT GIRL REALLY SEEMS TO LIKE YOU A LOT, DOESN'T SHE?
hehe
DON'T LOOK OF-FENDED
I'M ONLY KIDDING
...WHAT!?
WE'RE JUST FRIENDS...
BUT THE OTHER DAY... I DEFINITELY SAW TWO PEOPLE HUGGING IN THAT BACK ALLEY~ ♪
!
THAT WAS...
hehe
hehe
FOR SOME REASON I JUST CAN'T FIGURE THIS PERSON OUT..

BE CAREFUL WHEN DEALING WITH THAT GIRL
THAT GIRL...
DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO LOVE PEOPLE
ALL SHE BEARS IS A TWISTED HEART
Kurihara Ayumu hates you.
chatter
chatter
IF YOU LOOSEN ONE SCREW
WHO KNOWS HOW MUCH OF HER WILL FALL APART

SHE HASN'T CHANGED A BIT
snap...
IF YOU'RE COMPLETELY SICK OF HER, WHY DON'T YOU STOP BEING FRIENDS?
!
"I'M TIRED OF BEING WITH MISUZU"
SEEMS TO BE WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE, YOU KNOW?
WELL
bu-dump
AZUMA-SAN WAS IT?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN BY THAT, BUT...
bu-dump
HMM?
YOU DO THOUGH, DON'T YOU...

OR PERHAPS YOU'RE WAITING FOR MISUZU TO BREAK IT OFF WITH YOU FIRST?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
I'M NOT SICK OF HER AND
I LIKE MISUZU JUST THE WAY SHE IS!
HEY
DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY SHE'S TWISTED?
MISUZU'S PAST...
I KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT IT...

DON'T RATTLE ME
NO THANK YOU!
...STOP
I'VE DECIDED TO PROTECT HER
tear


MORE DELICATE THAN ANYONE
DELICATE AS GLASS
I DECIDED IT WOULD BE BAD TO LEAVE THAT GIRL ALONE
AYUMU
WHERE DID YOU GO..?
I'M LONELY...
I'M SCARED...
Very soon I will be right beside you
SAVE ME...

ブルーフレンド
BLUE FRIEND

第五話

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ブルーフレンド
BLUE FRIEND

"WHY ARE YOU COMING TO THE HOSPITAL EVERY-DAY?"
"... HEY"
"DO YOU... HAVE SOME SORT OF BUSINESS WITH YOUR FATHER?"
"YOU'RE... THE DAUGHTER OF TSUKISHIMA-SENSEI, FROM THIS HOSPITAL, RIGHT?"
"...SINCE I'M..."
"NOT REALLY HIS CHILD..."
"I AM YOUR FATHER'S ASSIS-TANT"
"IF YOU HAVE BUSINESS WITH YOUR FATHER, WHY DON'T YOU GO AHEAD AND CALL HIM?"
"...IT'S FINE"
"FATHER DEFINITELY HATES ME"

Blue Friend Behind-the-Scenes Part 4

Actually I'm writing this in August but I've just recovered from a bout of viral gastroenteritis.. I got such a fever and was really nauseous not to mention the diarrhea. My crying face was like a wasp's.

I'm over it now but I'm just so happy to be healthy I should take this as a signal to start getting healthy!

This has nothing to do with the story though. Sorry.

Blue Friend: Chapter 5

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Thank you Yuribou, Winterbraid and Lichifruit for proofing~

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"HEY HEY, DID YOU HEAR!?"
"IT'S ABOUT TSUKISHIMA MISUZU FROM OUR CLASS!"
"SOMEONE SAW HER GETTING CLOSE WITH A COOL PERSON AT THE HOSPITAL!"
"EH~!? NO WAY... WAS IT HER BOYFRIEND!?"
whisper
"THAT ANTI-SOCIAL GIRL!? IMPOSSIBLE!"
"I MEAN, THERE'S NO REASON TO DATE A GRADE-SCHOOLER, RIGHT?"
"BESIDES, THE HOSPITAL? DOESN'T SHE HAVE A HOME?"
"HER... HER FATHER'S A DOCTOR, ISN'T HE?"
whisper
whisper
splash
soaked...
THAT'S SLY OF HER
whisper
"BUT, HER FATHER IS NOT HER REAL FATHER..."
"AND, THANKS TO HER BOGUS DAD, THE FAMILY IS RICH..."
"AND NOW SHE'S GETTING DOTED ON BY ANOTHER YOUNGER DOCTOR?"
whisper
whisper

Jerk!
"IT'S AZUMA-SAN"
hurrying
"LET'S GO."

"BAM"
"HMM? WHAT'S ALL THIS TALK ABOUT?"

"SAY SOME-THING"
"... OR IS THIS SO CALLED BOYFRIEND OF YOURS GOING TO COMFORT YOU INSTEAD?"

squirt

"THAT PERSON IS MERELY.
LOOKING AFTER ME"
stand.
"AND ONLY THAT"

rip...
tear
Someday I'll share your past
Very soon I will be right beside you
rip...
PLEASE, AYUMU.
WHO...?
COME BACK SOON...

DON'T GO ANY-WHERE...
WHY
WHY IS THAT PERSON
DELIBERATELY PROVOKING EVERYONE...
TELLING PEOPLE EVERYTHING SHE KNOWS ABOUT MISUZU...
BUT, WHAT REALLY HURT THE MOST WAS...

IF YOU'RE COMPLETELY SICK OF HER, WHY DON'T YOU STOP BEING FRIENDS?
IT'S LIKE THAT "EYE" IS LOOKING THROUGH TO THE DEPTHS OF PEOPLE'S HEARTS
hold..
MISUZU AND I ARE ..
FRIENDS?
OPEN
"HURRY BACK!"
WHAT IS THIS STRANGE, "UNCOM-FORTABLE FEELING" AGAIN?
badump
AYUMU
badump

I WONDER WHAT FRIENDS ARE
AYUMU...
NEVER CAME BACK AFTER THAT
...FRIENDS
Stop it!
Sheesh!
Why not?
HEY! MAI-CHAN!
COME OVER HERE~ HER BOYFRIEND GOT A SINGLE!
THEIR SOFTBALL CLUB'S NUMBER ONE PLAYER!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OVER THERE? IF YOU HAVE THE TIME, LET'S CHAT!
SOFTBALL FRIENDS

pass

WHAT ARE YOU HIDING?
KEEPING SECRETS AS YOU LIKE AND
DEPENDING ON YOUR FRIENDS SO MUCH IS BAD, ISN'T IT?
WHAT DON'T YOU WANT THAT GIRL TO KNOW?
STOP
just...
SATSUKI
SINCE LONG AGO, I'VE HATED THOSE NASTY HABITS OF YOURS

IF YOUR GOAL IS TO HALF-PLAYFULLY TEAR AYUMU AND I APART
I WILL ABSOLUTELY NEVER FORGIVE YOU
..turn
DON'T YOU THINK SHE MIGHT BE TIRED OF BEING YOUR PLAYMATE BY NOW?
I DON'T KNOW, BUT...
WHAT IF SHE GETS TIRED OF YOUR POSSES-SIVENESS AND TURNS TO ANOTHER GIRL?

run...
.....
AYUMU WOULDN'T DO THAT..
huff
huff
STUPID GIRL...
SHE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO SHOW THAT SHE CARES ABOUT SOMEONE...
aha haha
YOU'RE KIDDING!?

YOU'LL HAVE TO INTRODUCE ME!
YOU BETTER NOT SKIMP OUT ON CLUB!
ahaha
IT'S GREAT YOU HAVE A BOYFRIEND
CONGRATU-LATIONS!
blush
Well, you're tough!
HIRAI JUST WASN'T A MAN, AYUMU
NEXT TIME I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO A WINNER!
AH... THAT'S...
SOUNDS NICE
AS FOR ME, AS FAR AS THE LOVE DEPARTMENT GOES, I'VE HAD NO SUCH LUCK
APART FROM PAINFUL EXPERIENCES
HAVING FUN LIKE THIS IS TAKING A RISK...
For real!
ahaha

IT'S BEEN AWHILE SINCE I'VE TALKED SO CASUALLY LIKE THIS
IT'S A NICE FEELING
AYUMU
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
!! MISUZU!?
I WAS WAITING ALONE FOR YOU THE WHOLE TIME...
YOU'RE THE WORST
YOU'RE HANGING OUT IN A PLACE LIKE THIS
I SAID TO HURRY BACK AND YET.

whisper
AYUMU STILL CARES ABOUT HER?
whisper
SHE'D BE BETTER OFF IF SHE JUST LEFT HER ALONE ALREADY.
whisper
THIS IS BAD
turn...
MISUZU!
SORRY, I'M GOING TO GO
surprised..
SORRY MISUZU, I JUST BECAME ABSORBED IN A CHAT AND
following
I FINISHED WITH MY CHORES AND I WAS REALLY JUST THINKING OF HEADING BACK SOON
AND, UMM...
I KINDA...
MISUZU!
HEY, WAIT UP.
IT'S NOTHING TO GET ALL UPSET ABOUT...
grab...

YOU LIKE ME, DON'T YOU, AYUMU!?
THEN DON'T GO OFF MAKING FRIENDS WITH OTHER GIRLS!
...EH!?
YOU DON'T HATE ME, DO YOU!?
YE-YEA...
N-NO.

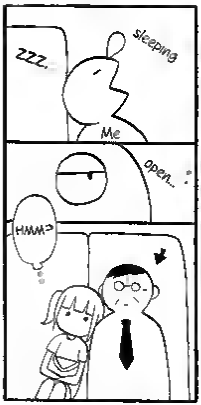
WHAT!?
WAIT A SECOND!
HOW CAN YOU JUST SAY THAT...
AYUMU, IF I CAN BE WITH YOU, I DON'T NEED ANYONE ELSE!
BUT AYUMU, YOU DON'T FEEL THE SAME!?
"IF YOU LOOSEN ONE SCREW...
WHO KNOWS HOW MUCH OF HER WILL FALL APART..."
AYUMU, I...
YOU AREN'T BEING REASONABLE!

MISUZU, I'M TIRED OF YOU!
I HAVE TO STOP
ALL I WANTED WAS JUST SOME TIME TO MYSELF!
I CAN'T ALWAYS MAKE TIME FOR YOU MISUZU!
I'M FED UP WITH YOU SAYING STUFF LIKE THAT
THIS IS BAD
I HAVE TO STOP MYSELF
IT'S ALWAYS SERIOUS AND INTENSE

"MISUZU, I'M TIRED OF YOU!"

⑨ The morning of the deadline

I went all the way to the airport to air mail the manuscript and on the express train back home...



On the express train I was sleeping on the shoulder of a man I didn't know...

sigh
IT'S HARD COMING TO SCHOOL...
Morning
YESTER-DAY I DEFINITELY WENT OVERBOARD
Hey
Chatter...
OI' YOU GOTTA SEE THIS
DAMN...
WHAT IS IT?
...?
BECAUSE OF WHAT I SAID TO MISUZU...
BUT STILL, WHENEVER I TALK WITH OTHER GIRLS...
MISUZU ALWAYS HAS AN ISSUE WITH IT...

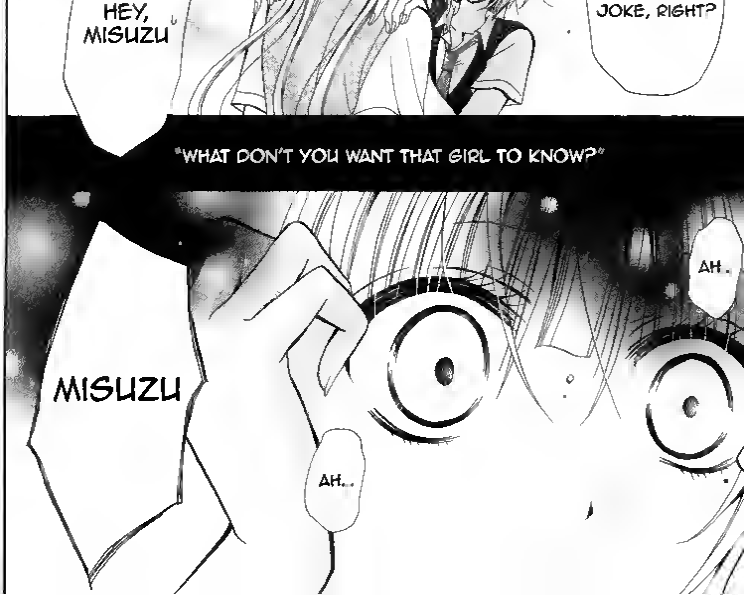
chatter
chatter
IS THIS FOR REAL?
UWAAA...
chatter
WHO DID THIS...?
...WHAT IS ALL THIS?
glance
...!?
WH...
WHAT?
THERE'S PAPERS ON THE WALLS...?

Tsukishima Misuzu is the worst girl ever. In the past, her father was working at the hospital, and she had a physical relationship with a young doctor there. She's a sinister girl who seduces men with her body.

mumble
A LIE, RIGHT...?
WHAT THIS IS...
mumble
thud
WHO IN THE WORLD WOULD DO THIS..

THIS IS A LIE, ISN'T IT...?
HEY..
MISUZU...
...

HEY, MISUZU
grasp
THIS IS DEFINITELY SOME KID'S JOKE, RIGHT?


"WHAT DON'T YOU WANT THAT GIRL TO KNOW?"
MISUZU
AH..
AH.

AH...

NOOOOOOOO!

(10)

Last Notes

This is my last chance to say this. Thank you so very much for reading up until here!

If you would please read Blue Friend Volume 2.

I'll be happy if you continue to follow Ayumu and Misuzus adventures!

You can still send mail here:

〒119-0161

Kodansha
Ribon Editorial
Department
Eban Fumi

Well then, this is it! (><)/

collapse...
...
MISUZU?

COME ON...
HANG IN THERE...
MISUZU

So how was Blue Friend Volume 1?

This work covers a topic that, up until now, I haven't had a chance to work with. If you have ever read some of my past works, surely you are wondering "Eban, why...?", I'd imagine. I surprised myself too.

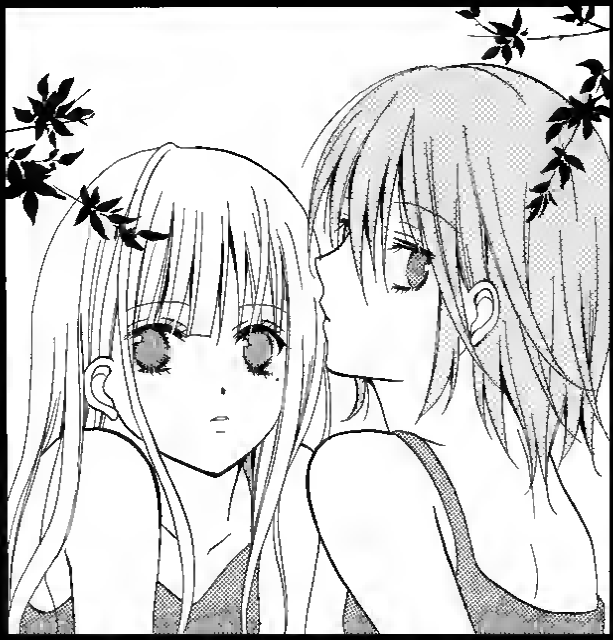
However, like the protagonists in this work, facing friends and finding yourself unable to express feelings held within is a difficult path for people, isn't it... I think.

In puberty, a person might harbor worries they cannot reveal to other people, and so I decided to try and depict the delicate feelings of young girls. "Blue Friend" was born.

Even though it's a complex theme, for me personally it's fun drawing it.

If you hopefully come around for the second volume, I will be happy.

Well then, see you!



SPECIAL THANKS

Natsuki Takumi-sama
Fujimoto Yukari-sama
Tsukimura Ruri-sama
Koga Yukiko-sama
30-sama

Manager Y-sama
My family
My friends

Thank you so much for picking up this book!

2010.9 Eban Fumi

the wonders of teenage girls.

It stirs the soul.

Blue Friend Volume 2

EXPECTED TO BE RELEASED EARLY SPRING 2011!

Eban Fumi

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Are they hope-less? These wishes ...?

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